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LETTER DATED 27 APRIL 1999 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF ERITREA TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

I have the honour to transmit a press release issued by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Eritrea on 26 April 1999 as a result of Ambassador Mohamed Sahnoun's visit to Asmara (see annex).

The release reaffirms Eritrea's commitment to the Framework Agreement of the Organization of African Unity and its readiness to implement it.

I should be grateful if you would kindly circulate this letter and its annex as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Haile MENKERIOS
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

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Annex

Press release issued by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Eritrea on 26 April 1999

Eritrea reaffirms its commitment to and readiness to implement the OAU Framework Agreement

President Isaias Afwerki met this afternoon with Ambassador Mohamed Sahnoun, special envoy of the United Nations Secretary-General. Ambassador Sahnoun delivered a message from the Secretary-General, Mr. Kofi Annan, to President Isaias.

Earlier in the day, Ambassador Sahnoun met with Foreign Minister Haile Weldense, leading the Eritrean delegation that is mandated to deal with the border conflict between Eritrea and Ethiopia.

In the course of both discussions, Eritrea reaffirmed its strict adherence to the Framework Agreement of the Organization of African Unity which was endorsed by the Summit of the Central Organ and expressed its commitment to and readiness for its full implementation. In that context, the Eritrean Government further reiterated its readiness to redeployment, as clearly stipulated by, and in the letter and spirit of, the Framework Agreement.

Eritrea also informed Ambassador Sahnoun - indeed, as it had done when the OAU delegation visited Asmara last month - that it had already designated a committee and that the Eritrean Government stood ready to play its role within the Follow-up Committee to be established under the auspices of the OAU High-level Delegation, with the active participation and assistance of the United Nations.